CLAIMS

WE CLAIM:

1. A DNA microarray comprising:

a set of features on a substrate, each of the features including single DNA probes, the probes for positive controls being arranged in a pattern recognizable to a human being through visual observation so that whether an event of interest has occurred can be determined by hybridizing nucleic acids from a sample to the microarray and observing the presence or absence of the visual pattern.

2. The polynucleotide microarray of Claim 1, wherein the set of features contains one feature.

3. The polynucleotide microarray of Claim 1, wherein the set of features contains a plurality of features.

4. A method for building a polynucleotide microarray comprising the steps of:

selecting a set of features, each feature including polynucleotide probes for detecting an event of interest, some of the features being positive controls; and

arranging the set of features on a microarray substrate so that the positive controls form a pattern recognizable to a human being through visual observation if the positive control features fluoresce.

5. The method of Claim 4, wherein the set of features contains one feature.

6. The method of Claim 4, wherein the set of features contains a plurality of features.

7. A method for detecting whether an event of interest has occurred comprising the steps of:

providing a DNA microarray comprising a set of features each including single stranded DNA probes for detecting the event of interest, the microarray including features intended to serve as positive controls, the features for positive controls being arranged in a pattern recognizable to a human being through visual observation;

hybridizing nucleic acids from a sample to the microarray; and

observing the presence or absence of the visual pattern.

8. The method of Claim 7, wherein the set of features contains one feature.

9. The method of Claim 7, wherein the set of features contains a plurality of features.